

MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

November 16, 2004

David Decker called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Sheriff Jon Marvel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kylissa Miller Chief Deputy Auditor, took the roll call. All members were present except Cedric Blade.

Mr. Jim Bramble, Auditor, gave the reading of the call.

Mr. Decker called for the approval of the October 12, 2004 meeting minutes as well as the minutes from the budget meetings. Mr. Roman noted that the minutes were reported inaudible in several instances. Mr. Roman moves to approve the minutes. Mr. Scott seconds the motion.

Mr. Decker called for comments from the Council. Mr. Tim Curley acting in behalf of all the Council members presented a plaque to Mr. Decker and Ms. Miller in appreciation of their work on the Council.

Mr. Decker called for comments from the Public. Ms. Pat Macke, a representative of West Central Indiana Economic Development, addressed the Council regarding the Rural Bus Transportation program. She is proposing a new agency to run the rural transportation for 2005. She stated that we are in the 8th month of the rural transportation plan and it is continuing to grow, serving over 55 families. There is a demand for the service; it just needs to be marketed. Mr. Scott asked if the State would provide any assistance. Ms. Macke replied that she could apply for a state grant noting that support from the Council, the Commissioners and the community is necessary. She stated that state funding is not available this year. Mr. Decker stated that he has seen the bus in several rural areas and has received calls from citizens utilizing the service stating that they need and appreciate that service.

Mr. Roman stated that he was the one who pushed to get this rural transportation. He stated that Ms. Macke has done a good job trimming everywhere she possibly can but for now all he can offer is to look further into this request. The Council has budget issues they must stick to for right now.

Ms. Macke thanked the Council for their time and looks forward to discussing this at a later time.

Commissioner Bill Bryan commented that he has also received calls from taxpayers expressing their appreciation of the rural transportation.

Mr. Scott stated that he hopes in the next month the Commissioners will look for some extra money in their budget to help this situation.

Mr. Dave Reeves, Building Commissioner, is requesting the cap on the Non-Reverting Fund be removed. There was a question as to who imposed the cap. Mr. Chris Newton, County Attorney will get back to the Council on this issue in January as to how the cap can be removed.

Mr. Jim Bramble, Auditor requesting approval on all fire protection budgets. Mr. Curley moves to approve the budgets. Mr. Anderson seconds the motion.

Consideration of the call began with a representative of Barnes & Thornburg on behalf of Mirant Sugar Creek LLC requesting an amendment to the real property tax abatement granted in March 2000. Mr. Roman moves to approve the motion. Mr. Scott seconds the motion.

Ms. Jeanie Kelly, Convention and Tourism, requesting an additional appropriation of \$15,000 for marketing and advertising. Mr. Anderson moves to approve, Mr. Curley duly seconds the motion.

Mr. Bernard Burns, Director of Alcohol and Drug, is proposing the establishment of a fund for Drug Court User Fees. With the establishment of this fund in 2005, Mr. Burns needs to have a Salary Ordinance in place in order to pay the employees. Mr. Burns will return in 2005 to have grant monies and user fees transferred from County General to the new fund. Mr. Roman moves to approve the salary ordinance. Mr. Scott duly seconds the motion.

Mr. Burns also requesting additional appropriations of \$1,410 from the Coordinator's Budget for the Local Coordinating Council additional incurred expenses. Ms. Miller moves to approve the motion Mr. Curley duly seconds the motion.

Ms. Louise Anderson, Director of the Health Office, requesting a transfer from Rent to Office Supplies. Also, requesting additional appropriations of \$565 to Pharmacy Supplies and \$703 to Unexpected Expenditures. Also a request to replace the Immunization Registry clerk who resigned. Mr. Curley moves to approve the motion. Ms. Miller seconds the motion.

Mr. Jim Bramble, Auditor, requesting additional appropriation of \$16,940 to Contractual Services for document scanning in the Plat Mapping fund. The Plat Mapping fund has approximately \$80,000 in the fund.

Mr. Bramble also requesting a transfer of \$2,670 from Travel to Office Furniture in the Auditors budget. Ms. Miller moves to approve the additional appropriation and the transfer. Mr. Scott seconds the motion.

Mr. Decker read a request from Group homes to transfer \$125 from Food to New Equipment. Mr. Anderson moves to approve the transfer. Mr. Scott duly seconds the motion.

Mr. Richard Setliff, Director of Emergency Management, requesting transfers of \$3,200 to purchase generators for the de-contamination units. Mr. Anderson moves to approve the transfer requests. Mr. Scott seconds the motion.

Mr. Michael Sheehan, Surveyor requesting the extra help position in the Surveyors budget be reinstated in 2005. In 2001 the Surveyor gave up a full-time employee with the Councils agreement, \$8,279 was left to fund a part-time position. Mr. Roman moved to approve the request. Ms. Miller duly seconds the motion.

Ms. Patricia Mansard, Clerk, requesting a full-time position made available due to the retirement of key personnel. Mr. Roman stated that this Council has adopted the attrition policy so at this time without justification he would be unable to support this request. Mr. Decker stated that if attrition is not honored then there would be less raises for all employees. Ms. Mansard stated that she is down 4.25 employees at all times. Mr. Scott stated that it is up to the Commissioners and the Department Heads to come up with ways to find money. Mr. Anderson moves to approve the request. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. Mr. Roman suggests Ms. Mansard approach the Council again in January after a study of the situation.

Mr. Raymond Watts, Recorder, requesting a full-time position for Deputy Recorder made available due to retirement. Mr. Watts stated if we want to be fair and consistent that we should cut someone from every office in the whole county. Mr. Anderson questioned Mr. Watts on the additional work in his office. Mr. Decker stated that he understands the need but that the Council does not want to have to lay anyone off and we would like to be able to continue to give employees raises. Mr. Anderson moves to approve the request. Ms. Miller duly seconds the motion. Mr. Roman stated again that attrition is the only way. He suggests a time study performance for those departments seeking additional help.

Mr. Jeremy Weir, Area Planning, requesting the position of Assistant Director be reinstated. Mr. Weir has been appointed the Executive Director due to the termination of the previous Director. That leaves Mr. Weir's previous position as assistant director vacant. Again, the Council points out that attrition is the only way to reduce costs. It was discussed that if the request were for a replacement of the terminated employee the attrition policy would not apply but since Mr. Weir's request is for a position due to the reappointment of a current employee then the attrition policy will apply. Mr. Anderson moves to approve the appropriation. The motion dies due to a lack of a second.

Mr. Lloyd Lenderman, a representative of Soil and Water, requesting the replacement of an employee who is leaving. It is the Urban Conservation position. Mr. Anderson moves to approve the request. The motion dies due to a lack of a second.

Mr. Bill Bryan, Commissioner, expressed his concern for not filling the Soil and Water position. He stated that the county spent \$150,000 for this comprehensive plan and it will be wasted without the replacement of personnel. He stated that not replacing employees in the Area Planning and the Soil and Water Departments would directly interfere with the county's ability to comply with state and federal laws.

Mr. Decker asked the Council if they would like to revisit the requests for the Area Planning and the Soil and Water departments. Mr. Scott stated that he gets no joy out of telling department heads they cannot replace employees but that is his job. He stated maybe this voting tonight would make the Council, Commissioners and the Department Heads work as a team. He is tired of being the bad guy. He said the Council agreed to vote no additional appropriations for salary this evening and he will not change his vote. Mr. Decker added that all departments should be treated equally.

Mr. Anderson stated that when we talk about treating all departments fairly that we tonight have appropriated salary funding for other departments, so he does not see a consistency.

Mr. Roman stated that he is not that knowledgeable about all the different departments and the Council relies on the Commissioners for that feedback. Mr. Roman questioned where all of this information was when the Council was adopting the attrition policy.

Mr. Jon Marvel, Sheriff requesting additional appropriations of \$90,000 for Hospital Fees and \$25,000 for Pharmacy Supplies. He is also requesting an additional \$12,000 to 437-70 Fees to Physicians. Ms. Miller moves to approve the request. Mr. Anderson duly seconds the motion.

Commissioner Bill Bryan, requesting an additional appropriation of \$20,000 to 415-24 Unemployment. Mr. Scott moves to approve the motion. Ms. Miller seconds the motion.

Mr. Bramble, Auditor, requests approval of the 2005 Salary Ordinance. Mr. Scott moves to approve the motion. Ms. Miller duly seconds the motion.

Mr. Decker stated it was nice to see a large crowd here tonight and thanked the newly elected Council member Mike Morris for attending.

Mr. Decker asked for comments from the Public. Mr. Tony Miller, Data Processing has an alternate quote for the tax system. He has been talking with Tippecanoe County and is discussing a joint share in the new tax system update.

Mr. Roman expressed his thanks to the County and to the Commissioners for the Veterans Day festivities.

Mr. Anderson moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Mr. Scott seconds the motion.

MOTIONS

NOVEMBER 16, 2004

Minutes of the November 16, 2004 Meeting- Mr. Roman moves to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2004 meeting. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Fire Protection Budgets- Mr. Curley moves to approve the Fire Protection Budgets as submitted. Mr. Anderson seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Resolution 2004-7- Mr. Roman moves to approve the Resolution 2004-7 regarding the amended Statement of Benefits for a property tax abatement for Mirant Sugar Creek LLC. Mr. Curley seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Convention and Tourism- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the transfer of \$694 from 415-22 Retirement, \$1,126 from 415-23 Group Insurance, \$100 from 415-24 Unemployment, \$1,000 from 421-00 Office Supplies, \$11 from 421-20 Janitor Supplies, \$28 from 424-40 Gasoline \$1,894 from 444-80 Office Furniture and \$1,821 from 446-00 Office Machines to 430-35 Advertising-Marketing-Promotion. Also, approving the appropriation of \$15,000 to 430-35 Advertising-Marketing-Promotion. Mr. Curley seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Drug Court- Mr. Roman moves to approve the 2005 Salary Ordinance as presented for Drug Court. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Drug Free Community- Ms. Miller moves to approve additional appropriation of \$1,010 to 421-00 Office Supply, \$50 to 430-05 Postage and \$350 to 437-40 Telephone. Mr. Curley seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Health Office- Mr. Curley moves to approve the transfer of \$1,300 from 436-20 Rent to 421-00 Office Supplies and the additional appropriation of \$565 to 421-70 Pharmacy Supplies and \$703 to 435-50 Equipment Repair and the request to replace the Immunization Clerk. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Plat Mapping- Ms. Miller moves to approve the addition appropriation of \$16,940 to 433-30 Contractual Services. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Auditor – Ms. Miller moves to approve the transfer of \$2,670 from 437-20 Travel to 444-80 Office Furniture. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Group Homes- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the transfer of \$125 from 425-40 Food to 445-10 New Equipment. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Emergency Management- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the transfer of \$400 from 433-80 Water, Gas, etc., of \$1,500 from 435-50 Equipment Repair, of \$300 from 439-05 Training Material and \$1,000 from 442-40 EOC Improvements to 445-10 New Equipment. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Surveyor- Mr. Roman moves to approve the reinstatement of the Extra Help position. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. All members present voting aye, the motion passes.

Clerk- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the full-time Administrative Assistant position 411-30. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. Mr. Scott, Mr. Curley, Mr. Roman and Mr. Decker voting nay with a roll call vote, the motion is denied.

Recorder- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the full-time position 411-30 Deputy Recorder. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. Mr. Scott, Mr. Curley, Mr. Roman and Mr. Decker voting nay with a roll call vote, the motion is denied.

Area Planning- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the full-time position 411-20 Assistant Director. Motion dies due to lack of second.

Soil and Water- Mr. Anderson moves to approve the replacement of 411-60 Conservationist Director. Motion dies due to lack of second.

Jail- Ms. Miller moves to approve additional appropriation of \$90,000 to 437-80 Hospital Fees, \$12,000 to 437-70 Fees to Physicians, and \$25,000 to 421-70 Pharmacy Supplies. Mr. Anderson seconds. All members present voting aye. The motion passes.

Commissioners- Mr. Scott moves to approve additional appropriation of \$20,000 to 415-20 Unemployment. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. All members present voting aye. The motion passes.

Salary Ordinance- Mr. Scott moves to approve the 2005 Salary Ordinance. Ms. Miller seconds the motion. All members present voting aye. The motion passes.

Adjournment- Mr. Anderson moves for adjournment at 7:30 pm. Mr. Scott seconds the motion. All members present voting aye. The motion passes.

Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 25th day of January 2005.

AYE

NAY

_____	Brad Anderson	_____
_____	Mark Bird	_____
_____	Tim P. Curley	_____
_____	Ivan “Mike” Morris	_____
_____	Turk Roman	_____
_____	Darrick C. Scott	_____

Robert Hellmann, President

Attest:

James W. Bramble
Auditor